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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING** 

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Mary Kake Fuda

Mary Kahefer

1/20/04

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: DACE et al.

Examiner: Jon D. Epperson

Serial No. 09/879,279

Group Art Unit: 1639

Filed: June 12, 2001

For: IN VITRO CAPTURE OF NUCLEIC ACIDS VIA MODIFIED

OLIGONCLEOTIDES AND MAGNETIC BEADS

Attorney Docket No: 60050USNP

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF NONCOMPLIANT AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Notice of Non-compliant Amendment dated January 15, 2003, please consider the following remarks and enter the amendments.